

Amendments to the Claims

The claims have been amended as follows. Underlines indicate insertions and ~~strikeouts~~ indicate deletions.

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Claims 1-36 (Cancelled).

37. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the texture of a cast material alloy, comprising the steps of:

providing a cast material comprising ~~an~~ a non-ferrous based alloy;

performing a preliminary treatment comprising subjecting the cast material to at least one of homogenizing, hot forging and solutionizing;

after the performing the preliminary treatment, defining equal channel angular extrusion routes for defining predetermined shear planes and crystallographic directions in the alloy;

selecting at least a route from the defined routes for plastically deforming the alloy during equal channel angular extrusion; and

subjecting the alloy to a predetermined number of passes through the selected routes.

38. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the texture of a cast material alloy, comprising the steps of:

providing a cast material comprising ~~an~~ a non-ferrous based alloy;

performing a preliminary treatment comprising subjecting the cast material to at least one of homogenizing, hot forging and solutionizing;

after the performing the preliminary treatment; defining equal channel angular extrusion routes for defining predetermined shear planes and crystallographic directions in the alloy;

selecting at least one route from the defined routes for processing the alloy;

processing the alloy through the selected at least one route; and

recovery annealing the alloy at a temperature range and a time period determined for the alloy for obtaining substantially uniform grain size, global microstructure and texture.

39. (Currently amended) A method for influencing the texture evolution of a cast material alloy, comprising the steps:

providing a cast material comprising an a non-ferrous based alloy;

performing a preliminary treatment comprising subjecting the cast material to at least one of homogenizing, hot forging and solutionizing;

after the performing the preliminary treatment, defining equal channel angular extrusion routes for defining predetermined shear planes and crystallographic directions in the alloy;

selecting at least one route from the defined routes for processing the alloy;

processing the alloy through the selected at least one route;

recovery annealing the alloy at a temperature range and a time period determined for the alloy; and

further recovery annealing the alloy at a temperature greater than maximum temperature of the temperature range.

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40. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the texture of a cast material alloy, comprising the steps of:

providing a cast material comprising ~~an~~ a non-ferrous based alloy;

defining equal channel angular extrusion routes for defining predetermined shear planes and crystallographic directions in the alloy;

selecting at least one route from the defined routes for processing the alloy;

processing the alloy by performing at least one pass through the selected at least one route;

after the processing, intermediate annealing the alloy;

after the intermediate annealing, performing at least one additional pass through the selected at least one route; and

post-extrusion processing the alloy to create a specific texture, a uniform grain size and a high texture strength for the alloy.

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41. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the texture of a cast material alloy, which comprises the steps of:

providing a cast material comprising an a non-ferrous based alloy;

performing a preliminary treatment comprising subjecting the cast material to at least one of homogenizing, hot forging and solutionizing;

after the performing the preliminary treatment, defining equal channel angular extrusion routes for defining predetermined shear planes and crystallographic directions in the alloy;

selecting at least one route from the defined routes for processing the alloy;

processing the alloy through the selected at least one route; and

further processing the alloy under equal channel angular extrusion in order to create a specific texture, a uniform grain size and a high texture strength for the alloy.

42. (Previously added) The method of claim 37 further comprising intermediate annealing between at least some of the passes.

43. (Previously added) The method of claim 42 wherein the intermediate annealing comprises recovery annealing.

44. (Previously added) The method of claim 42 wherein the intermediate annealing comprises recrystallization annealing at the beginning temperature of static recrystallization.

45. (Currently amended) The method of claim 42 wherein the intermediate annealing comprises recrystallization annealing at a temperature above the beginning temperature of static ~~recrystallization~~ recrystallization.

46. (Previously added) The method of claim 37 further comprising, after the predetermined number of passes, performing an annealing treatment.

47. (Previously added) The method of claim 46 wherein the annealing treatment comprises recovery annealing.

48. (Previously added) The method of claim 46 wherein the annealing treatment comprises recrystallization annealing at a temperature corresponding to the beginning temperature of static recrystallization.

49. (Previously added) The method of claim 46 wherein the annealing treatment comprises recrystallization annealing at a temperature at or above the temperature of full static recrystallization.

50. (Previously added) The method of claim 40 wherein the intermediate annealing comprises at least one of a) recovery annealing, B) annealing at the beginning temperature of static recrystallization, and C) full static recrystallization annealing.

51. (Previously added) The method of claim 40 wherein the post-extrusion processing comprises performing a post-extrusion annealing treatment, the post-extrusion annealing comprising at least one of a) recovery annealing, B) annealing at the beginning temperature of static recrystallization, and C) full static recrystallization annealing.

52. (Previously added) The method of claim 41 further comprising performing intermediate annealing, the intermediate annealing comprising at least one of a) recovery annealing, B) annealing at the beginning temperature of static recrystallization, and C) full static recrystallization annealing.

53. (Previously added) The method of claim 41 further comprising performing a post-extrusion annealing treatment, the post-extrusion annealing comprising at least one of a) recovery annealing, B) annealing at the beginning temperature of static recrystallization, and C) full static recrystallization annealing.